## JUDGE BERMAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

10 CIV 9518

SOUTHERN FRUIT & VEGETABLE, INC,

Plaintiff,

-against-

VEN-CO PRODUCE, INC, ROBERT VENUTI, ANGELA VENUTI, GOTHAM BANK OF NEW YORK, HUNTS POINT TERMINAL PRODUCE CORPORATION ASSOCIATION, INC, et al.,

Defendants.



#### **COMPLAINT**

Southern Fruit & Vegetable, Inc, (the "Plaintiff"), by and through its undersigned attorneys, Neiger LLP, hereby alleges upon information and belief as follows:

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction of the above-captioned case pursuant to Sections 5(a), 5(b), and 5(e)&(c)(5) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930, as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 499 ("PACA") and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331.
  - 2. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391.

#### THE PARTIES

3. The Plaintiff is a corporation organized and doing business under the laws of the State of Tennessee, with its principal place of business located at 1172 Simms Heights Road, Kingston Springs, Tennessee 37082-8106. The Plaintiff is a dealer and commission merchant holding license no. 19851522 issued and renewed by the United States Department of Agriculture under PACA.

- 4. At all relevant times, Ven-Co Produce, Inc ("Ven-Co") has been a New York corporation operating a wholesale produce business, with its principal place of business located at the NYC Terminal Market, Bronx, New York, and is licensed under PACA as a dealer or commission merchant holding PACA license no. 19821683. Ven-Co owns shares in, and operates out of cooperative units (referred to herein as the "Co-ops") located in the Hunts Point Terminal Market.
- 5. Robert Venuti and Angela Venuti (collectively, the "Venuti Defendants") are New York State residents, and are officers, directors, and stockholders and persons "responsibly connected" with Ven-Co, as defined under PACA. The Venuti Defendants exercise primary control over Ven-Co's daily business operations and assets.
- 6. Gotham Bank of New York ("Gotham") is a bank which provides services in the State of New York and maintains a branch location at 1412 Broadway, New York, New York 10018.
- 7. Hunts Point Terminal Produce Corporation Association, Inc (the "Cooperative Corp.") is a commercial cooperative corporation and maintains offices at 1 Hunts Point Terminal Market, Bronx, New York 10474-7302. The Co-ops are affiliated with the Cooperative Corp.

#### VERIFICATION

8. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is an Affidavit of Keith Sherrill, President of Southern Fruit & Vegetable, Inc, which was executed on December 20, 2010 verifying the facts set forth herein.

## FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Breach of Contract – Ven-Co)

- 9. The Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in all prior paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 10. Between April 30, 2009 and May 12, 2009, the Plaintiff sold and delivered to Ven-Co at least \$60,896.00 in fresh fruits, vegetables and perishable agricultural commodities (collectively, the

"PACA Commodities") within the meaning of 7 U.S.C. § 499. These sales constituted numerous transactions of interstate commerce.

- 11. Ven-Co, by its servants, agents, and/or employees, accepted the PACA Commodities at the times they were delivered at Ven-Co's place of business.
- 12. Following the respective deliveries, the Plaintiff sent invoices (the "Invoices") to Ven-Co, which contained all material terms of the contracts of sales covering each shipment of the PACA Commodities, including:

The Perishable Agricultural Commodities listed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5(c) Of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. § 499e). The seller of these Commodities retain a trust claim Over these commodities, all Inventories of food or other products derived from these commodities and Any receivables or proceeds from the Sale of these commodities until full payment is received.

- 13. The Venuti Defendants received and retained the Invoices, copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 14. Ven-Co has failed to pay for the PACA Commodities it received and accepted as identified on Exhibit B, is in breach of its contracts with the Plaintiff, and is in violation of 7 U.S.C. § 499e(4).
- 15. As a direct actual and proximate cause of Ven-Co's failure to remit payment due to the Plaintiff on account of the PACA Commodities and violations of PACA, the Plaintiff has suffered losses and damages in the principal amount of \$60,896.00, plus interest.
- 16. Ven-Co is indebted and liable to the Plaintiff in the full amount of \$60,816.00, plus interest, costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees.

## SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION (Enforcement of Statutory Trust Provisions of PACA - Venuti Defendants)

- 17. The Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in all prior paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 18. At all relevant times, the Plaintiff was engaged in the business of selling and/or shipping perishable agricultural commodities as defined by PACA.
- 19. The PACA Commodities that are the subject of the First Cause of Action were purchased and sold in interstate commerce.
- 20. Pursuant to the regulations promulgated under PACA, the Plaintiff placed the following language in each Invoice sent to Ven-Co.:

The Perishable Agricultural Commodities listed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5(c) Of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. § 499e). The seller of these Commodities retain a trust claim Over these commodities, all Inventories of food or other products derived from these commodities and Any receivables or proceeds from the Sale of these commodities until full payment is received.

- 21. The Invoices contained the required language to preserve the Plaintiff's rights as a licensed supplier in the PACA assets to create the statutory trust (the "PACA Statutory Trust").
- 22. Pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 499e(c)(1)-(5), the Plaintiff performed and fulfilled all duties required to preserve its PACA Statutory Trust rights in the PACA Commodities in the amount of at least \$60,896.00 plus interest, costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees.
- 23. Pursuant to the PACA Statutory Trust, the Venuti Defendants are the statutory trustees of the PACA Statutory Trust and the PACA Commodities, all of which were delivered to and received by Ven-Co and the Venuti Defendants, and in which the Venuti Defendants had possession, custody and control.

- 24. The PACA Statutory Trust required the Venuti Defendants to hold and preserve all goods, inventories, proceeds and receivables in trust for the benefit of the Plaintiff until full payment has been made to the Plaintiff on account of the PACA Commodities.
- 25. Upon information and belief, the Venuti Defendants failed to maintain the PACA Commodities and keep them available to satisfy Ven-Co's and the Venuti Defendants' obligations to the Plaintiff under the PACA Statutory Trust.
- 26. Ven-Co and the Venuti Defendants' failure to pay the Plaintiff for the PACA Commodities in full, as well as their failure to hold and maintain the PACA Commodities and proceeds therefrom, constitute a violation of section 499b(4) of PACA and the regulations enforcing the PACA Statutory Trust provisions, 7 C.F.R. § 46.46.
- 27. The Venuti Defendants have breached their fiduciary duties to maintain the PACA Statutory Trust and PACA Commodities under their control in violation of section 499b of PACA and the regulations enforcing the PACA Statutory Trust provisions set forth in 7 C.F.R. § 46.46.
- 28. In addition, upon information and belief, at all relevant times, the Venuti Defendants dissipated portions of the PACA Commodities in their custody and/or have converted portions of the PACA Commodities to their own use.
- 29. As a direct and proximate cause of the wrongful acts and omissions of the Venuti Defendants, the Plaintiff has been damaged in the amount of \$60,896.00 plus interest, costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in this action.

## THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (Enforcement of Statutory Trust Provisions of PACA - Gotham)

30. The Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in all prior paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

- 31. Upon information and belief, around the year 2000, the Venuti Defendants obtained the financing for the purchase of the shares of stock in the Co-ops from Gotham in excess of \$1 million (the "Co-ops Loan").
- 32. Upon information and belief, the Venuti Defendants stored and maintained the PACA Commodities in the Co-ops.
- 33. Upon information and belief, Gotham has received and accepted mortgage and interest payments (the "Mortgage Payments") from Ven-Co, by and through the actions of the Venuti Defendants pursuant to the Co-ops Loan agreement and related loan documents.
- 34. Upon information and belief, funds making up the Mortgage Payments are direct and traceable proceeds from Ven-Co's sales of the PACA Commodities.
- 35. As proceeds of the PACA Commodities, the funds paid by Ven-Co to Gotham as Mortgage Payments should have been paid by Ven-Co, through its agents, pursuant to the PACA Statutory Trust. See 7 U.S.C. § 499e(c)(2); H.R. Rep. No. 98-98-543, at 2 (1983).
- 36. Accordingly, upon information and belief, the Mortgage Payments were made from funds that were property of the PACA Statutory Trust, and should have inured to the Plaintiff's benefit.<sup>2</sup>
- 37. Gotham's retention of the Mortgage Payments constitutes a violation of 7 U.S.C. § 499e(c)(2) and Regulations.

The PACA trust is a "nonsegregated floating trust" that applies to the perishable "commodities, products derived therefrom, and any receivables or proceeds from their sale in the hands of the commissioner merchant, dealer, o[r] broker."); In re Kornblum, 81 F.3d 280, 285 (2d Cir. 1996) ("the res of a PACA trust includes all of the [beneficiary's] Produce-related assets regardless of their origin . . . assets acquired with the cash proceeds of trust property . . . are included among the 'proceeds' of that property . . . whether [such] asset [was] purchased with the cash proceeds of a trust property as a second generation 'proceed' or as the product of a wrongful dissipation of trust assets").

In re Kornblum, 81 F.3d at 285. ("where [PACA] trustee by the wrongful disposition of trust property acquires other property, the beneficiary is entitled to enforce a constructive trust of property so acquired").

## FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION (Enforcement of Statutory Trust Provisions of PACA – Cooperative Corp.)

- 38. The Plaintiff repeats and realleges the allegations contained in all prior paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 39. The PACA Statutory Trust requires the Venuti Defendants, as trustees, to hold and preserve all goods, inventories, proceeds and receivables for the benefit of the Plaintiff until full payment has been made to the Plaintiff (and any other PACA-qualified produce vendors with perfected PACA claims).
- 40. Upon information and belief, substantial portions of the PACA Commodities are presently being held and maintained at the Co-ops.
- 41. Upon information and belief, Ven-Co, but and through the Venuti Defendants, entered into a transaction for the sale of the Co-ops for approximately \$1.4 million (the "Co-ops Sale Transaction").
- 42. Upon information and belief, the Cooperative Corp. has or will imminently approve the Co-ops Sale Transaction.
- 43. Upon information and belief, Ven-Co and the Venuti Defendants will not be able to hold and maintain the remaining PACA Commodities for the benefit of the Plaintiff if the Co-ops Sale Transaction is consummated.
- 44. Accordingly, consummation of the Co-ops Sale Transaction, at this time, would cause immediate dissipation of the PACA Commodities, and therefore, poses an imminent danger of irreparable harm to the Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff respectfully seeks judgment as follows:

- 1. Judgment against Ven-Co for breach of contract in the amount of \$60,896.00 plus interest, costs and reasonable attorneys' fees;
- 2. Declaring Ven-Co and the Venuti Defendants to have violated PACA and the USDA regulations promulgated thereunder;
- 3. Declaring the Venuti Defendants to be the statutory and constructive trustees, for the benefit of the Plaintiff, with respect to the PACA Commodities, related assets and proceeds to which the Plaintiff has preserved its rights under PACA;
- 4. Declaring the Venuti Defendants to be in defalcation with respect to their fiduciary duties to the Plaintiff, and to be personally, jointly, and severally liable to the Plaintiff for all losses, costs, fees, and expenses sustained by the Plaintiff as the result of the acts or omissions alleged herein;
- 5. Ordering the Venuti Defendants to pay the Plaintiff the sum of \$60,896.00, plus applicable interest and costs, and granting the Plaintiff a judgment for said amount;
- 6. Declaring the Mortgage Payments received by Gotham to be proceeds of the PACA Commodities and property of the PACA Statutory Trust, which Ven-Co and the Venuti Defendants should have preserved for the benefit of the Plaintiff;
- 7. Ordering Gotham to disgorge the Mortgage Payments to the Plaintiff;
- 8. Declaring that the Co-ops Sale Transaction constitutes a violation by the Venuti Defendants, as trustees of the PACA Statutory Trust, of their fiduciary duties to maintain and preserve the PACA Statutory Trust property for the benefit of the Plaintiff;
- 9. Entering an Order preliminarily restraining and enjoining Ven-Co, the Venuti Defendants, Gotham, and the Cooperative Corp. from facilitating and/or transferring the Co-ops pursuant to the Cooperative Sale Transaction; and
- 10. Granting the Plaintiff such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: December 21, 2010 New York, NY

By:

Edward E. Neiger, Esq.

**NEIGER LLP** 

317 Madison Avenue

21<sup>st</sup> floor

New York, New York 10017

Tel: 212.267.7342 Fax: 212.918.3427

# EXHIBIT "A"

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
-----x
SOUTHERN FRUIT & VEGETABLE, INC,

Index #

Plaintiff,

-against-

VEN-CO PRODUCE, INC, ROBERT VENUTI, ANGELA VENUTI, GOTHAM BANK OF NEW YORK, HUNTS POINT TERMINAL PRODUCE CORPORATION ASSOCIATION, INC, et al.,

Defendants.
 X

## AFFIDAVIT OF KEITH SHERRILL IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S APPLICATION FOR A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

I, Keith Sherrill, being duly sworn, depose and say:

- 1. I am the President of Southern Fruit & Vegetable, Inc.<sup>1</sup> and make this Affidavit in support of the Plaintiff's Application for emergency relief pursuant to Rule 65 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 2. I am an adult, who, if called upon as a witness, would and could competently testify as to all facts stated herein. Unless provided otherwise, I have personal knowledge of all facts described herein.
- 3. The Plaintiff is a supplier of wholesale quantities of perishable agricultural commodities in interstate commerce and is a produce-dealer subject to and licensed under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930, as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 499a et seq. ("PACA"). The Plaintiff holds PACA license no. 19851522 issued and renewed by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms which are not defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Application.

the United States Department of Agriculture, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

- 4. My responsibilities as President of the Plaintiff include supervising the collection of the accounts receivable for all sales of produce, including the account of Ven-Co Produce Inc, ("Ven-Co") and the PACA Commodities which are the subject of this litigation. I have custody and control of the Plaintiff's sales and accounts receivable records as they relate to Ven-Co, and I am familiar with the manner in which these records were compiled.
- 5. Ven-Co has a principal place of business located at NYC Terminal Market, Bronx, New York and was at all times pertinent herein a purchaser of wholesale quantities of produce. Robert Venuti and Angela Venuti (the "Venuti Defendants") are responsible for the day-to-day operations of Ven-Co during the time in question and were in a position of control over the PACA Commodities.
- 6. The sales and accounts receivable records of the Plaintiff, including invoices and account statements related to Ven-Co, were made in the ordinary course of business. These business records were made by me or by employees under my direction and supervision whose duty it is to prepare such documents.
- 7. Between April 30, 2009 and May 12, 2009, the Plaintiff sold to Ven-Co the PACA Commodities, which traveled through interstate commerce, in the amount of at least \$60,896.00, all of which remains unpaid. A true and correct copy of an Accounts Receivable Aging Report is attached hereto as Exhibit "B".
  - 8. Ven-Co accepted the PACA Commodities from the Plaintiff.

9. The Plaintiff timely delivered invoices (collectively, the "Invoices") to Ven-Co, which contained the following language:

The Perishable Agricultural Commodities listed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5(c) Of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. § 499e). The seller of these Commodities retain a trust claim Over these commodities, all Inventories of food or other products derived from these commodities and Any receivables or proceeds from the Sale of these commodities until full payment is received.

True and correct copies of the Invoices are attached hereto as Exhibit "C."

- 10. The Venuti Defendants have never disputed to the Plaintiff that the amount of \$60,869.00 is due and owed by Ven-Co.
- 11. I made repeated demands upon Ven-Co and the Venuti Defendants for such payment and received numerous promises of payment. However, the payments were not made.
- 12. The Venuti Defendants issued checks for payment of the PACA Commodities, however, each was returned for insufficient funds.
- 13. Upon information and belief, Ven-Co, by and through the Venuti Defendants, are in the process of consummating a sale transaction of the cooperative units which it operates, subject to the approval of the Hunts Point Cooperative Corporation, to Gotham Bank which provided financing to Ven-Co to purchase the cooperative units.

12/21/2010 09:39 6159522400 HERITAGE BANK PAGE 04/04

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that I am subject to perjury should any of the foregoing statements made by me be willfully false.

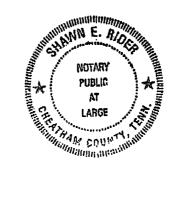
Dated: December 20, 2010

Sworn to me this <u>20</u> day of December 2010,

Motary Public

Southern Fruit & Vegetable, Inc.

By: Sett Sherrill, Presiden



# EXHIBIT "A" TO KEITH SHERRILL AFFIDAVIT

PACA Search Page 1 of 1

#### Fruit and Vegetable Programs

#### Search PACA

Search Again 💢 Go Back to the previous page 🖛

<u>License No.</u>	Date Issued	<b>Anniversary Date</b>	<u>Status</u>
19851522	7/9/1985	7/9/2011	Active
<b>Business Name</b>		City	<u>State</u>
SOUTHERN FRUIT	& VEGETABLE INC	KINGSTON SPGS	TN
Reported Princip	al (Last Name, First	Name)	
SHERRILL, DARLEI	NE .		<del></del>
SHERRILL, KEITH			
<u>Trade Names</u> None			
Branch Name , B	ranch City , Branch S	<u>State</u> None	

Return to: Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA)

http://apps.ams.usda.gov/pacasearch/SearchDetails.aspx?License\_ID=1522&License\_FY... 12/21/2010

\$200\\ 200\\ 2010\ 09:06 010\\$2\\ 12\\ 211

# EXHIBIT "B" TO KEITH SHERRILL AFFIDAVIT

Date: 8/31/10 Time: 10:16AM

# SOUTHERN FRUIT & VEGETABLE, INC Accounts Receivable Aged Open Item Detail Report

Page: 1

Aging Date: 8/31/10

Customer: VEN-CO

Customer Code Order

Invoice.	Oate	Туре	Reference	Rep	Trans Amount	Current Amount	15 - 21 22 - 28 - Cygr 28 Amount Amount
/EN-CO	VEN-CO P	RODUCE, INC					
4154-1	4/30/09	Invoice		TES	7,680.00		UPA days - 7,680.00
4157-1	4/24/09	Invoice		TES	9,150.00		(00,6424)
4161-1	4/27/09	Invoice		TES	8,940.00		ίρι — 9.150.00
4172-1	5/05/09	Invoice		TES	8,100.00		491 8,940.00
4173-1	5/07/09	Invoice		TES	8,310.00		483 — 8,100.00
4182-1	5/11/09	Invoice		TES	9,812.00		40/ - 8,310.00
4183-1	4183-1 5/12/09 Invoice	Involce		TES	8,904.00		477 — 9,812.00 476 — 8,904.00
·			CUSTOMER TOT	AL:	60,896.00	<del></del>	(50,896.00)

REPORT TOTALS:

60,896.00

60,896.00

S F + U+5 - 615-646-0282 Beith Sharrill

# EXHIBIT "C" TO KEITH SHERRILL AFFIDAVIT

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4154-1

Date

4/30/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

.Acct Veл-Co Pro	<del>-</del>	se Order#	Ship Viu Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 4/27/2009	Terms Net 10
Quantity	Туре			Price	Total
20	MIXED ITEMS	Pallets	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	6.00	. 120.00
840	YELLOW ONIONS	Jumbo U	SA	9.00	7,560.00
* * We Appreciate Your Business * *				Total	7,680.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The partenable agricultural commodities listed on the throice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities and three commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the subject three commodities until full payment is receivable.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>There will be no claims or adjustments of any kind made in price or amount unless shipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government inspection is required by shipper.\*\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4157-1

Date

4/24/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

Acct Ven-Co Pro	_	use Order #	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 4/21/2009	Terms Net On Receip
Quantity	Туре			Price	Total
. 20	MIXED ITEMS	Pallets		6.00	120.00
420	YELLOW ONIONS	Jumbo US	A	9.50	3,990.00
420		Large/Med	USA	12.00	5,040.00

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 9,150.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The perishable agricultural commoditive listed on the twoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 6 (c) of the Perishable Agnoultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 499a(c)). The seller of these commodities (stains a trust claim over these commodities, all inventuries of load and other products derived from these commodities, all inventuries of load and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the selle of these commodities until full payment is received.

<sup>&</sup>quot;"There will be no claims a adjustments of any kind made in price or amount unless stupper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble sumber and/or government inspection is required by shipper."

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4161-1

Date

4/27/2009

NY

Sold To:

Ship To;

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

Acut Ven-Co Pro	•	ise Order#	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 4/24/2009	Terms Net 10
Quantity	Туре			Price	Total
20	MIXED ITEMS	Pallets		6.00	120.00
588	YELLOW ONIONS	Jumbo U	ISA	9.75	5,733.00
252		Large/Me	ed USA	12.25	3,087.00
* We Ap	preciate Your Busin	ess * *		Total	8,940.00

PACA 'RUST PROVISION: The panishable agricultural commodities listed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the Penshable Agricultural Commodities Ast, 1939 (7 U.S.C. 499-(c)). The seller of these commodities retains a trust claim over these commodities, all inventories of tupo and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of these continodities until full payment is received.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>There will be no claims or adjustments of any land made in urice of amount unless shipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government beposition is required by shipper \*\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4172-1

Date

5/5/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

Acct Ven-Co Pro	Sales Rep	Purcha	sse Order#	Ship Via	Date Shipped 4/30/2009	Terms Net On Receipt
Quantity	Ту	pe			Price	Total
20 840	MIXED ITEM		Pallets Jumbo U	SA	6.00 9.50	120.00 7,980.00

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 8,100.00

PAGA TRUST PROVISION: The personale agricultural continuation listed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust outherized by section 6 (c) of the Personable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 450s(c)). The seller of these continualities returns a finist claim over these continuations of food and other products derived from these continuations, and any receivables or proceeds from the select those commodities until full payment is received.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Trage will be no claims or adjustments of any kind medo to price or amount unless shipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government trapportion is required by anipper.\*\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Yel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

<u>Invoice</u>

Invoice # 4173-1

Date 5

5/7/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

10474-

<i>Acct</i> Ven-Co Pro	Sales Rep	Purcha	se Order #	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 5/4/2009	Terms  Net On Receipt
Quantity	7)	ре			Price	Total
20	MIXED ITEN	1S	Pallets		6.00	120.00
840	YELLOW O	SNOIN	Large/Me	ed U\$A	9.75	8,190.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The perichable agricultural continedities listed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Aq. 1930 (7 U.S.C. 499e(c)). The setter of these commodities rutains a trust coim over these commodities, all inventories of food and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of those commodities until full payment is received.

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 8,310.00

<sup>&</sup>quot;There will be no ulsims or adjustments of any kind made in price or amount unless shipper is negliged within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government inspection is required by shipper."

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4183-1

<u>Date</u>

5/12/2009

NY

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

Acct Ven-Co Pro	Sales Rep	Purchuse Order #	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 5/8/2009	Terms
Quantity 21	Ty <sub>j</sub> MIXED ITEM			Price	Total
798	YELLOW ON	1 011612	SA	6.00 11.00	126.00 8,778.00

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 8,904.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The perishable agricultural commodilies fixed on this invoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (d) of the perishable agricultural Commodilies Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 499-(c)). The sailer of index communications entered commodities and inventories of load and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the safe of these commodities until full payment is received.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>There will be no claims or adjustments of any kind made in price or amount unless shipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (515) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

*Invoice* 

Invoice # 4182-1

Date

5/11/2009

NY

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

Acct Ven-Co Pro	<b>Sales Rep</b> du TES	Purchas	se Order #	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 5/7/2009	Terms
Quantity	Ту	pe		***	Price	Total
22 880	MIXED ITEN		Pallets Large/Me	d USA	6.00 11.00	132.00 9,680.00

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 9,812.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The perishable agricultural commodities fisted on this invoice are said subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 489e(c)). The sailer of these commodities retains a trust claim over those commodities, all inventories of food and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or property from the sale of these commodities until full payment is receivable.

<sup>\*\*</sup>There will be no eleims or adjustments of any kind made in price or amount unless chipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government inspection is required by shipper.\*\*\*

# EXHIBIT "B"

P.O. Box 262 Kingsten Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

**Invoice** 

Invoice # 4154-1

Date

4/30/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

10474-

Acct Ven-Co Pro		Purchase Order#	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 4/27/2009	Terms Net 10
Quantity	Тур	e.		Price	Total
20	MIXED ITEMS	S Pallets		6.00	120.00
840	YELLOW ON	IONS Jumbo L	ISA	9.00	7,560.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The particular commodities listed on this invoice are said subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the Perichable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 490e(c)). The seller of these commodities relative a trust staim over these commodities, all inventories of load and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the said at these commodities until full payment is receivable.

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 7,680.00

<sup>\*\*</sup>There will be no claims or adjustments of any kind made in price of amount unless shipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government inspection is required by shipper.\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

**Invoice** 

Invoice # 4157-1

Date

4/24/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

Acct Ven-Ca Prod	•	se Order#	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 4/21/2009	Terms Net On Receipt
Quantity	Туре			Price	Total
20	MIXED ITEMS	Pallets		6.00	120.00
420	YELLOW ONIONS	Jumbo U	ISA	9.50	3,990.00
420		Large/Me	ed USA	12.00	5,040.00
* We Ap	preciate Your Busine	?\$'S * *	•	Total	9,150.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The parishable agricultural contraditive fixed on this revoice are sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 6 (c) of the Perishable Agricultural Commedities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 4995(c)). The seller of mese commodules retains a function over these commodities, all inventuries of tool and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables of process from the sale of these commodities until full payment is received.

wellhold will be no claims a adjustments of any kind made in price of amount unless shipped is notified within 8 hours. A frouthe remost and/or government inspection is required by shipper.\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4161-1

Date

4/27/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

Acct Ven-Co Pro	•	ase Order#	Ship Viu Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 4/24/2009	Terms Net 10
Quantity	Туре			Price	Total
20	MIXED ITEMS	Pallets		6.00	120.00
588	YELLOW ONIONS	Jumbo U	JSA	9.75	5,733.00
252		Large/Me	ed USA	12.25	3,087.00
* We Appreciate Your Business * *			Total	8,940.00	

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The penshable agricultural commodities tisted on this invoice are said subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the penshable Agricultural Commodities Asi, 1650 (7 U.S.C. 489e(c)). The seller of these commodities retains a trust claim over these commodities, all inventories of these commodities and the seller of these commodities and the seller of these commodities and the products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or precedes from the seller of these commodities until full payment is received.

<sup>--</sup> There will be no claims or adjustments of any kind made in crice or amount unless shipper is notified within 6 hours. A trouble number and/or government inspection is required by shipper \*\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

<u>Invoice</u> # 4172-1

Date 5/5/2009

Sold To: Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx NY 10474-

Acct Ven-Co Pro		chase Order#	Ship Via	Date Shipped 4/30/2009	Terms Net On Receipt
Quantity	Туре			Price	Total
20 840	MIXED ITEMS YELLOW ONIONS	Pallets S Jumbo U	SA	6.00 9.50	120.00 7,980.00

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 8,100.00

PAGA TRUST PROVISION: The pertangole agricultural commodities listed on this invoice are sole subject to the statutory start authorized by section 6 (c) of the Perianable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 490e(c)). The saller of these commodities returns a trust claim over these commodities, all inventories of load and other products derived from those commodities, and any receiveb-se or proceeds from the each of these commodities until full payment is received.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Track will be no claims or adjustments of any kind made to price or emount unless shipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government inspection is required by shipper.\*\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4173-1

Date

5/7/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

10474-

Acct Ven-Co Pro	Sales Rep	Purchas	se Order #	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 5/4/2009	Terms Net On Receipt
Quantity	Tyy	pe			Price	Total
20	MIXED ITEM	18	Pallets		6.00	120.00
840	YELLOW ON	NONS	Large/Me	ed USA	9.75	8,190.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The perishable agricultural commodities listed on this invoice are sold subject to the distutory trust subnovated by section 5 (c) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 8,310.00

<sup>&</sup>quot;\*There will be no claims or adjustments of any kind made in price or amount unless shipper is natited within 8 hours. A mouble number and/or government

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

Invoice

Invoice # 4183-1

<u>Dute</u>

5/12/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

Ven-Co Pro	Sales Rep	Purchase Order #	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 5/8/2009	Terms Net 10
Quantity	Турс			Price	Total
21 798	MIXED ITEMS YELLOW ONI	L Blifetz	ISA	6.00 11.00	126.00 8,778.00

<sup>\* \*</sup> We Appreciate Your Business \* \* Total 8,904.00

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The parishable apricultural commodities listed on this invince the sold subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the parishable agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities Agricultural Commodities (r) U.S.C. 499-(c)). The selfer of these commodities retains a trust claim over these commodities, and any recolvables or proceeds from the sale of these commodities until full payment is received.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>There will be no claims of adjustments of any kind made in price or amount unless shipper is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government respection is required by snipper.\*\*\*

P.O. Box 262 Kingston Springs, TN 37082 Tel: (615) 646-0282 Fax: (615) 646-8425

**Invoice** 

Invoice # 4182-1

<u>Date</u>

5/11/2009

Sold To:

Ship To:

Ven-Co Produce, Inc.

Same

374-376 Row C New York City termin

Bronx

NY

Acct Ven-Co Pro		se Order#	Ship Via Truck-Delivered	Date Shipped 5/7/2009	Terms Net 10
Quantity	Туре			Price	Total
22	MIXED ITEMS	Pallets		6.00	132.00
880 YELLOW ONION		Large/Med USA		11.00	9,680.00
* We Appreciate Your Business * *			Total	9,812.00	

PACA TRUST PROVISION: The perishable agricultural commodities transform on this invoice are said subject to the statutory trust authorized by section 5 (c) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930 (7 U.S.C. 489c(c)). The said of these commodities retains a trust claim over those commodities, all inventories of feed and other products derived from these commodities, and any receivables or proceeds from the sale of those commodities until full payment is receivable.

<sup>\*\*</sup>There will be no claims or adjustments of any kind made in price or amount takes objust is notified within 8 hours. A trouble number and/or government inspection to required by shipper.\*\*

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SOUTHERN FRUIT & VEGETABLE, INC,

Index#

Plaintiff,

-against-

VEN-CO PRODUCE, INC, ROBERT VENUTI, ANGELA VENUTI, GOTHAM BANK OF NEW YORK, HUNTS POINT TERMINAL PRODUCE CORPORATION ASSOCIATION, INC, et al.,

Defendants.

#### **COMPLAINT**

Neiger LLP Edward E. Neiger, Esq. 317 Madison Avenue, 21<sup>st</sup> floor New York, New York 10017 TELEPHONE: (212) 267-7342

Pursuant to 22 NYCRR 130.1.1, the undersigned, an attorney admitted to practice in the courts of New York State, certifies that, upon information and belief and reasonable inquiry, the contentions contained in the annexed document are not frivolous.

Dated: December 21, 2010

Signature: \_

Print Signer's Name:

PE. NEIGER, 560.

JACQUELYN E. FORD
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01F04551616
Qualified in Orange County
Commission Expires February 3, 20